

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5745

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00861

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WG, GW, GE, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: INNER-GERMAN TRANSIT AGREEMENTS: NEWSPAPER
SPECULATION ABOUT PURPOSE OF ALLIED BK/O

REF: USBERLIN 0023

1. THE JANUARY 17 "FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE" FRONT PAGES
A BERLIN STORY TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RECENT BK/O RE-
GARDING THE "REICHSBAHN" CONSTRUCTION IN BERLIN REFLECTS
ALLIED DISSATISFACTION WITH SOME ASPECTS OF THE FRG/GDR
TRANSIT AGREEMENT.

2. THE STORY, QUOTING LONG EXERPTS FROM THE BK/O (WHICH
WAS PUBLISHED IN THE PREVIOUS DAY'S "GESETZ-UND
VERORDNUNGSBLATT"), FOCUSES ACCURATELY ON THE DISTINC-
TION THAT THE ALLIES MAKE BETWEEN GDR AND "REICHSBAHN"
ACTIVITIES IN THE WESTERN SECTORS.

3. WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD SEEK TO COUNTER SUCH SPECULA-
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TION ON ALLIED ATTITUDES AND SUGGEST THAT USBER WORK OUT

WITH UK AND FRENCH MISSIONS AN AGREED PRESS LINE FOR USE BY AK PRESS SPOKESMAN. SUCH LINE MIGHT INCLUDE POINTS THAT: (1) THE ALLIES WERE CONSULTED ON THE FRG/GDR NEGOTIATIONS AND CONCURRED IN THE CONCLUSION OF THE TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS; (2) ARRANGEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY FRG AND GDR AFFECTING WSB DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY COME INTO FORCE; THE BK/O REPRESENTS THE SUPPLEMENTARY AK ACTION WHICH IS REQUIRED TO BRING THE ARRANGEMENTS INTO FORCE; (3) THE BK/O REITERATES LONG-STANDING POSITIONS REGARDING "REICHSBAHN" OPERATIONS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS; AND (4) ALLIED REAFFIRMATION OF THESE PROCEDURES IS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AS BOTH THE ALLIES AND THE GERMANS PERCEIVE THEM.

4. IF EMBASSY RECEIVES PRESS QUERIES, WE WILL REFER QUESTIONERS TO UK (CHAIRMAN) PRESS SPOKESMAN IN BERLIN. HILLENBRAND

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